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### Education

- **University of Wisconsin-Madison:**  
Ph.D., Political Science, 1994.  
M.A., Political Science, 1990.
- **Loyola University of Chicago:** M.A., Political Science, 1989.
- **State University of New York (Stony Brook/Regents College):** B.S., Liberal Arts, 1985.

### Employment

- **Department of Government, Minnesota State University-Mankato:**
- *Distinguished Faculty Scholar*, since 2018.  
*Full Professor*, tenured, from August 2007-present.
- *Visiting Professor*, Department of Political Science, Institute of Eastern and Central European Studies, University of Regensburg, Germany, Fall Semester 2016.
- *Director, International Relations Program*, 2006-08, 2015-16, 2020-2022.
- *Associate Professor*, tenured, August 2001-July 2007.
- *Assistant Professor*, January 1995 – July 2001.

### Books and Book Chapters:

- (Co-authored with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat). *Mothers, Families or Children? Family Policy in Poland, Hungary, and Romania, 1945-2020*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022.
- (Co-authored with Linda Cook). "Central and Eastern Europe," (Chapter 50). In Herber Obinger et.al, eds, *The Oxford Handbook of the Welfare State*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2021: 881-898.
- *Welfare States in East Central Europe, 1919-2004*. New York/Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press, 2008. (Co-winner of the **2009 Orbis Book Prize** from the Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies - ASEES).
- *Welfare States w Europie Srodkowo-Wschodniej w latach 1919-2004*. Warsaw: Wyższa Szkoła Pedagogiczna TWP, 2010. (Polish language translation of "Welfare States in East Central Europe" - sponsored by the European Union).
- "Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia: Adaptation and Reform of the Post-Communist 'Emergency Welfare States'." (Chapter 5) In Alfio Cerami and Pieter Vanhuysse, eds., *Postcommunist Welfare Pathways: Theorizing Social Policy Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe*, Basingstoke UK: Palgrave/Macmillan, 2009, 73-95.
- (Co-edited with Nida Gelazis and Michael J. Cain). *Fighting Poverty and Reforming Social Security: What Can Post-Soviet States Learn from New Democracies in Central Europe?* Washington DC: Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars (East European Studies), 2005.
- "From Theory to Practice: Lessons of Post-communist Social Policy Reforms in Central Europe." In Nida Gelazis, Tomasz Inglot, and Michael J. Cain, eds. (Introduction), *Fighting Poverty and Reforming Social Security: What Can Post-Soviet States Learn from New Democracies in Central Europe?* Washington DC: Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars (East European Studies), 2005, 3-10.
- "Historical Legacies, Institutions and the Politics of Social Policy in Hungary and Poland, 1989-1998." (Chapter 7). In Grzegorz Ekiert and Stephen Hanson, eds. *Capitalism and Democracy in Eastern and Central Europe: Assessing the Legacy of the Communist Rule*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003, 210-247.

### **Published Journal Articles and Working Papers:**

- Editor, special, English-language issue of *Polityka społeczna (Social Policy)*, vol. 21, no.1 2025. Institute of Labor and Social Studies, Warsaw, Poland.
- “Neoliberalism and the Welfare State in Central and Eastern Europe: Legacies, Theory, and Practice since 1989,” *Polityka społeczna (Social Policy)*, vol. 21, no.1 (January) 2025: 1-9.
- (Co-editor, with Tsveta Petrova), “Introduction: Politics and Current Challenges of Demography in Central and Eastern Europe (special section). *East European Politics, Societies, and Cultures*, vol.34, no.4 (November) 2020: 879-892.
- "The Triumph of Novelty over Experience: Social Policy Responses to the Demographic Crises in Hungary and Poland since the EU Enlargement," *East European Politics, Societies, and Cultures*, vol.34, no.4 (November) 2020: 984-1004.
- “Social Policy and the New Middle Class in Central and Eastern Europe.” *Current History*, vol.118, no.806 (March) 2019: 96-102.
- “Convergent, Divergent, and Reversible Societal Trends in Europe: A Post-Cold War Historical Approach: Reflections on Béla Tomka’s “A Social History of Twentieth- Century Europe.” *Quaderni Stroici* (Bologna, Italy), no. 1 (April) 2016: 335-341.
- “Path-dependency vs. Reform in Pensions and Family Policy Re-examined: Dual Trajectories of the Polish Welfare State since the 1990s.” *Social Policy & Administration*, vol. 50, no.2 (March) 2016: 241-261.
- “Western Welfare States Watched from the East During the Cold War: Condemnation, Competition, and Creative Learning.” *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*, vol.29, no.3, 2013: 241-257.
- (co-authored with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat), “Reforming Post-Communist Welfare States: Family Policy in Poland, Hungary, and Romania since 2000.” *Problems of Post-Communism*, vol.59, no.6 (November-December) 2012: 27-49.
- (with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat), “Continuity and Change in Family Policies of the New European Democracies: A Comparison of Poland, Hungary, and Romania. “Part I: Institutional Legacies and Path Dependence in Family Policies, 1945-2000.” Washington DC: *NCEEER (National Council for East Eurasian and East European Research) Working Paper* no. 825-10 (November 14, 2011): 1-74.
- (with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat), “Continuity and Change in Family Policies of the New European Democracies: A Comparison of Poland, Hungary, and Romania. “Part II: Path Dependence and Path Departure in Family Policies since 2000.” Washington DC: *NCEEER (National Council for East Eurasian and East European Research) Working Paper* no. 825-10 (November 14, 2011): 1-69.
- “Zasiłki rodzinne jako “odrzucone” dziedzictwo komunistycznego welfare state w Polsce (1947-2003).” (“Family Benefits as a ‘Rejected’ Legacy of the Communist Welfare State in Poland, 1947-2003,” in Polish). *Polityka Społeczna* (Warsaw) no. 9 (2010) (Special Edition – European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion): 13-17.
- “The Emergence of Postcommunist Entitlement States: Social Insurance Policy and Politics under the Left-Wing Governments in Hungary and Poland.” *Program on Central and Eastern Europe Working Paper Series, no.46, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University*, 1998: 1-43.
- “Between High Politics and Civil Society: Polish Trade Unions in the Process of Democratization.” *Perspectives on Political Science* no.3 (Summer), 1998: 148-154.
- “The Politics of Social Policy Reform in Postcommunist Poland: Government Responses to the Social Insurance Crisis during 1989-1993. *Communist and Postcommunist Studies* no.3 (September), 1995: 361-373.
- “Explanations of Welfare Effort in Comparative Studies of Social Policy” (in Polish) *Polityka społeczna* (Warsaw, Poland) no. 7 (July), 1993: 2-5.
- (co-authored with John P. Pelissero) “Ethnic Political Power in a Machine City.” *Urban Affairs Quarterly* vol. 28, no. 4 (June), 1993: 526-543.

### **Fellowships, Awards, Grants, and Research Travel**

- **2024 – NAWA/Ulam Research Grant for International Scholars, National Agency of International Academic Exchanges/Ministry of Science**, in collaboration with the Institute of Labor and Social Studies, Warsaw, Poland, *Neoliberalism and the Welfare State in Central and Eastern Europe: Legacies, Theory and Practice from the 1990s to the Present*.

- **2020, Faculty Research Grant, Graduate School MSU, *Nationalism, Pronatalism and the Politics of Family Policy under Authoritarian and Democratic Regimes.***
- **2018, Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award, Minnesota State University-Mankato.**
- **2014-2015, Teacher of the Year Award, Minnesota State Student Association.**
- **2013, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Frontier Forum Lecture Award (College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, MSU-Mankato: *(Doing More with Less: Supporting Gender Equality and Families in Europe).***
- **2012, Faculty Research Grant, Graduate School-MSU, *European Integration, Welfare State, and the Family since 2004.***
- **2009-11, National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) – Collaborative Research Grant (*Family Policies in Central & Eastern Europe*).**
- **2009, Orbis Book Prize (American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, AAASS), for the book *Welfare States in East Central Europe, 1919-2004.***
- **2009, Faculty Research Grant, Graduate School -MSU, for field research on the politics of family policies in Poland, Hungary, and Romania.**
- **2005, Postsecondary Curriculum Development Program Grant, Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.**
- **2003, Postdoctoral Fellowship in East European Studies, American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) (to complete a book manuscript).**
- **2003, Faculty Research and Travel Grant, Graduate School -MSU, for field research in Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland.**
- **2002, Research and Travel Grant, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CSBS)-MSU, to conduct field research in Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland.**
- **2002, Douglas R. Moore Presidential Faculty Research Lectureship, MSU.**
- **1999, Short Term Grant, International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), Washington DC, for collaborative work with a foreign scholar.**
- **1997-98, Public Policy Fellow, Humphrey Institute for Public Policy, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities,**
- **1996/97, Short Term Travel Grant, IREX, for field research in Hungary and Poland.**
- **1996, Faculty Research and Travel Grant, Graduate School (MSU), to conduct field research in Hungary and Poland.**
- **1992/93, Fulbright Fellowship, Ph.D. dissertation research, Warsaw, Poland.**
- **1992 (Summer) – Social Science Research Council – Summer Seminar on Post-Soviet Economics, University of Pittsburgh, PA.**

### **Selected Conference Presentations**

- “Neoliberalism and the Welfare State in Central and Eastern Europe: Legacies, Theory, and Practice since 1989,” paper presentation, 30<sup>th</sup> *Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies)*, Lyon, France, July 3-5, 2024.
- “Mothers, Families or Children, Family Policy in Poland, Hungary and Romania, 1945-2020,” book presentation/roundtable panel, organizer and presenter. *European Social Policy Network (ESPAnet)* annual conference, University of Warsaw, Poland, September 8, 2023.
- “Mothers, Families or Children, Family Policy in Poland, Hungary and Romania, 1945-2020,” book presentation/roundtable panel, organizer and presenter. The 54<sup>th</sup> *Annual Convention of the American Society for East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)*, Chicago, IL, November 10-13, 2022.
- “Family Policy in Poland, Hungary and Romania, 1945-2020,” roundtable panel organizer and presenter, the 28<sup>th</sup> *Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies)*, Lisbon, Portugal, June 29-July 1, 2022.
- “Historical Explanations of Poland’s ‘Emergency’ Welfare State,” paper presented at the conference, *1918-2018, Poland in the Changing World*, University of Warsaw, Poland, 19 October 2018.
- “Welfare States in Central and Eastern Europe: A Search for New Comparative Perspectives.” Roundtable organizer and chair, 25<sup>th</sup> *Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies)*, Chicago, IL, March 28-30, 2018.

- "The Triumph of Novelty over Experience: Social Policy Responses to the Demographic Crises in Hungary and Poland since the EU Enlargement," Paper presented at the *24th Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies)*, Glasgow, UK, 12-14 July 2017.
- "The Age of Austerity vs. The Golden Age: A New Historical Explanation of Family Policy Continuity and Change in Europe." Paper presented at the *22nd Annual Conference of Europeanists, (Council of European Studies) Paris, France*, April 8-10, 2015.
- "The European Future of Permanent Austerity? New Approaches to Comparative Analysis of Welfare and Family Policies Including Old and New EU Member States. Conference panel organizer and chair, *22nd Annual Conference of Europeanists, (Council of European Studies) Paris, France*, April 8-10, 2015.
- Co-organizer (with Brigit Pfau-Effinger, University of Hamburg, Germany) of the mini-symposium on "Family Policies in Europe in Times of Austerity: The New Politics and Ideas of Gender, Employment and Children's Welfare," (three panels) at the *20th Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies-CES), Amsterdam, Netherlands*, June 25-27, 2013.
- (with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat) "The New Politics of Family Policy in Hungary, Poland, and Romania Since the EU Accession: Domestic vs. International Influences." Paper presented at the *20th Annual Conference of Europeanists (Council for European Studies-CES), Amsterdam, Netherlands*, June 25-27, 2013.
- "Eastern European Approaches: The Impact of the Cold War and Welfare Regimes in Eastern Europe." Paper presented at the conference: *The European Welfare State in a Global Context, the German Historical Institute London & London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK*, April 11-13, 2013.
- "Western Welfare States Watched from the East: Condemnation, Competition and Creative Learning." Paper presented at the international symposium on the *Cold War and the Welfare State, at the Nobel Peace Institute, Oslo, Norway*, November 11-14, 2012.
- "History, Politics and Ideas: Family Policy in Postwar Poland, Hungary and Romania" (with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat). Paper presented at the international conference, *Cross-disciplinary Perspectives on Welfare State Development, Nordic Center of Excellence and the University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark*, June 13-15, 2012.
- "Developmental Paths of Family Policies in the Former Socialist Countries." Paper presented at the International Symposium on *Welfare State Reform and Consequences*, organized by the *Center for Globalization and Governance, University of Hamburg, Germany*, June 12, 2012.
- "The Origins and Development of Family Policies in Central and Eastern Europe: A Comparison of Poland, Hungary and Romania, 1945-1989." Paper presented at the *19th Conference of Europeanists, (CES-Council on European Studies), Boston MA*, 23 March 2012.
- "Trade Unions and the Polish 'Emergency Welfare State': A Critical Reassessment." Paper presented at the *symposium on "Trade Unions and Social Policy under Communism," Indiana University, Bloomington IN*, October 22, 2010.
- (with Dorottya Szikra and Cristina Rat). "The Anti-Poverty Dimension of Family Policies in Three New EU Member States: Hungary, Poland, and Romania." Paper presented at the 8th annual ESPAnet (*European Social Policy Network Association*) conference, *Budapest, Hungary*, 2-4 September 2010.
- "Recent Trends and Future Family Policy Models in an Enlarged Europe." Conference panel organizer and chair, the 7th annual conference of the *Europea Network for Social Policy Analysis (ESPAnet), Urbino, Italy*, September 17-19, 2009.
- "Limits to Cross-Border Influences: Reproduction of Inequalities in Social Policy Outcomes in the New Democracies of East-Central Europe." Paper presented at the *6th Annual ESPAnet Conference, Helsinki, Finland*, September 18-21, 2008.
- "Postcommunist Welfare States and Inequality: Lessons from Comparative Study of Central and Eastern Europe Since 1989." Roundtable organizer and presenter at the *104th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Boston MA*, August 28-31, 2008.
- "Emergency Welfare States in East Central Europe, 1919-1999." Paper presented at the *5th Annual ESPAnet Conference, Vienna, Austria*, September 20-22, 2007.
- "Fighting Poverty and Reforming Social Security: What Can Post-Soviet States Learn from New Democracies of Central Europe?" Conference co-organizer, chair, and discussant, *Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (East European Studies), Washington DC*, June 10, 2005.

- “Comparative Study of European Welfare States: Western Theories of Social Policy Development and the East European Experience.” Paper presented at the 98<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the *APSA* in *Boston MA*, August 28-September 1, 2002.
- “Historical Legacies, Institutions, and the Politics of Social Policy in Poland and Hungary during 1989-1993.” Paper presented at the international conference on *Postcommunist Transitions a Decade Later: How Far East Can Western Europe Go?* *Harvard University, Cambridge MA, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies*, October 15-17, 1999.
- “The Politics of Pension Privatization in Poland and Hungary after 1989.” Paper presented at the 95<sup>th</sup> annual Meeting of the *APSA, Atlanta, GA*, September 2-5, 1999.
- “The Polish Trade Unions in the Process of Democratization after 1989.” Paper presented at the 93<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the *APSA*, Washington DC, September 1-4, 1997.
- “Social Insurance Policy under Left-Wing Governments in Poland and Hungary.” Paper presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the *AAASS*, Boston, MA, November 1996.

### **Invited Guest Lectures**

- “Family Policies in Hungary, Poland and Romania, 1945-2020.” Guest lecture/debate, organized by the Institute of Labor and Social Studies, Warsaw, September 5, 2023.
- “Family Policies in Hungary, Poland, and Romania, 1945-2020.” Guest lecture at University of Padua, Padua, Italy, May 15, 2023.
- “Family Policies in Hungary, Poland, Romania, 1945-2020.” Guest lecture at Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence, Italy, May 17, 2023.
- Keynote Speaker: *4<sup>th</sup> Hermann Weber Conference on Social Policy and the Cold War* organized by the University of Bremen and the Federal Foundation for the Study of the Communist Dictatorship in East Germany, Berlin, Germany, June 9, 2022.
- "Contemporary Studies of the Welfare State - Central and Eastern Europe in the European and Global Context." Guest lecture at the *40th Anniversary Conference of the Institute of Social Policy, University of Warsaw, Poland*, 20 September 2017.
- “Effects of Labor Migration in Poland and Hungary,” lecture presentation, *Bureau of Intelligence and Research, U.S. Department of State*, Washington D.C., May 11, 2016.
- “Path-Dependence Reconsidered: Toward a New Comparative Historical Approach to the Study of Continuity and Change in Central European Welfare States and Beyond.” Guest Lecture, *Central European University, Budapest, Hungary*, April 8, 2015.
- “Welfare States and Families in a Transforming Europe,” Guest lecture, *Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary*, April 9, 2015.
- “State Paternalism Revisited: Early Legacies of the Welfare State and the Socialist (Communist) Experience in Eastern and Central Europe.” Guest lecture presented at the workshop on *Social Policy in the Successor States of the Habsburg Empire: Searching for a Multidisciplinary Approach. Institute for East and South European Studies, University of Regensburg, Germany*, June 21, 2013.
- “Historical Legacies and Contemporary Politics of Family Policy in the New EU Member States: A Comparison of Poland, Hungary and Romania.” Guest lecture presented at the Department of Sociology, *Institute for Social Policy, Georg-August University, Goettingen, Germany*, June 26, 2012.
- “Building Welfare States for the Young Generation in Postcommunist Europe: The Politics of Family Policy in Hungary, Poland, and Romania.” Guest lecture delivered at the *Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia (CREECA) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison*, April 19, 2012.
- “In the Shadow of History- The Emergency Welfare States in East Central Europe.” Guest lecture, *ELTE University, Faculty of Social Policy, Budapest, Hungary*, October 8, 2009.
- “The Historical Study of Social Policies in East Central Europe.” Guest lecture, Faculty of Sociology, *Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania*, on October 15, 2009.
- “Comparative Study of Social Policy in Central and Eastern Europe.” Guest lecture, *ELTE University, Institute for Social Policy, Budapest, Hungary*, May 18, 2007.

**Foreign Languages:** English (fluent), Polish (native), Russian, German, Czech, and Slovak language competence for research purposes.

**Memberships and Professional Activities:**

- The Political Economy and Welfare Network member, Council for European Studies.
- European Social Policy Analysis Network (ESPAnet) member.
- Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) member.
- Public Policy Fellow Alumni Association, Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota.
- Editorial Board Member– *Problemy polityki społecznej (Social Policy Issues)*, quarterly journal, Warsaw, Poland).
- Editorial Board Member – *Ubezpieczenia społeczne (Social Insurance)*, quarterly journal, Social Insurance Administration (ZUS), Warsaw, Poland.